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A RELATION
Of the Passages in the BATTEL at SEA,
Between the Fleet of
ENGLAND
And the United
NEITHERLANDS;

Collected according to the charge & order of the *Lords States General*: Dated June $\frac{24}{14}$ 1666.

By the Lords DE WITT, Councill-Pensioner, VRYBERGEN, VAN DER HOOLCK, KAN & GERLACIUS, Deputies & Plenipotentiaries of the *States General*, at present beeing in the *Vielings*, for expediteing & over the imploy of the foresaid *Neitherlands Fleet*.

Translated faithfully out of the Dutch Copy, & published for the undeceiving of the English Nation.

For my honoured friend Mr Skippon of Grayes Inn, with the respect of S. H.

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BRITISH MUSEUM

A Relation of the Paſſages in the Battel at Sea, betwixt the Fleet of *England*, & of the *Vnited Neitherlands*, collected according to the charge & order of the Lords *States General*. Dated the 24 June, 1666.

By the Lords De Witt, *Councill-Penſioner*; Vrijbergen, Van der Hoolck, Kann, & Gerlacius, *their Deputies & Plenipotentiaries at preſent beeing in the* Wielings, *for expediteing & over the Employ of the ſaid Fleete, after a curious examineing of the chief Officers, Commanders, & Captaines of the foreſaid Fleete*.

THE *Neitherlands* Fleet upon the 1, 2, 3, 4, & 5, of June ſucceſſively, with ſeveral winds & calmes beeing gotten to Sea out of the *Texſell*: And through contrary winds or calmes not beeing able before the 8. to ſett courſe according to order given to approach the *English* Coaſt; were with ſayling, ſtopping of tides, & driveing, on the 11. following in the morneing, advanced unto about ſeven or eight Leagues East South East from the *Northforeland*, beeing the point of *England*, which ſtretcheth out between the Channel & River of *London*: where the ſaid *Neitherlands* Fleet, through contrary wind & ſtream, were neceſſitated to Anker.

The *English* [who with their Fleet some dayes before were ankered in the *Downs*,] on the foresaid 11 June 1666. [probably upon intelligence of the approach of the *Neitherlands* Fleete,] put to Sea from thence with their Fleete, about noone aproached neere the *Neitherlands* Fleet, which *Neitherlands* Fleet beeing then all together were eighty three Ships strong, namely Fregats men of warre, besides advise Boates, Fireships & other small Vessels; but by accident even before the beginning of the work, & but one hour before the Battel began, one of the capital Ships of the *Neitherlands* Fleet, commanded by *Colonell Gent*, through stamping of the Sea, lost first his Bowsprit & afterwards his Foremast in the sight of the enemy, & beeing unserviceable by order of *Gen. de Ruyter* as Admiral & chief Commander of the Fleet aforesaid was sent up to *Holland*, the aforesaid *Coll. Gent*, beeing before gon over aboard the Ship of *Cap. Godskens*.

The *English Fleet* as they then were told by the *Neitherlanders*, were about eighty sayle strong; it was judged one a clock in the afternoone when each began to fire at the other, the *Neitherlanders* Ships haveing before cutt their cables, because it was impossible through the hollow Sea & shortnes of time in any wyse to gett their Ankors onboard. Both the Fleets therewith beeing under saile stood together over to the Southward the wind beeing *W. S. W.* by which meanes the Esquadron of the L. Admirals *Tromp*, & *van Meppelen*, to whom particularly was assigned the Reareguard (haveing lyen at an Anker to the Southwestward) became the Vanguard. And he the said L. Admirall *Tromp* shewed himselfe valiant & resolute in the foremost & heaviest of the fight; & hee was also manfully seconded by his *Vice-* & *Reare Admirals*, & other Officers. Whereuponimmediately according to order the Esquadron of *General de Ruyter* & *L. Admiral van Nes*, fell in with the enemy & with their chief Officers & Captaines signally quitted themselves. Presently after about 3. or 4. a clock afternoon an *English* Fregat of the *Blew Esquadron* carryng by ghesse 50. Guns, so soon as he was past the *Gen. de Ruyters* side having recieved from him the last salute sunk a little a stern of him. The

The Esquadron of the *L. Admiralls Cornelius Evertson* and *Tjerck Hiddes de Vries*, could not at the first get up to the enemy, for that they were so farre to windward of them, whereby it was very fiercely fought on both sides, each Fleet keeping the same course till about 5. of the clock in the afternoone, when the *English* having tacked made North Westward, and were the most part of them forced to beare up before the wind, as is judged to avoid the *Flemmish Banks*, & then the Esquadron of the *Admiralls Cornelius Evertson* and *Tjerck Hiddes de Vries*, came also into a fierce combat whith the enemy, who likewise with their whole Esquadron praise-worthyly and courageously quitted themselves. And in the winding off of the *English Fleet* some of their leeward-most Ships were cut off, which were then presently boarded & each by one *Neitherlands* Ship overcome and accordingly brought up in *Holland*. The one named *Swiftsure*, mounted with 70. Guns, most of them brasse & commanded by *Sir William Barckley*, *Vice-Admiral* of the *white Esquadron*, who (courageously defencing himselfe against his overcomer, namely *Henry Adrianson*, commanding the Ship *Hern*, mounted with 75 Guns) was in person slaine. The other named the *seven Oakes*, with abouth 60 Guns, was overcome by Capt. *Vander Saen*, commanding a Freggat of 52. Goteling. And the third named the *Loyal George*, with 44. Guns by *Capt. Jacob Andreas Swart*, commanding the Ship *Deventer*, mounted with 66. Guus, all three Captaines belonging to the Admiralty of *Amsterdam*. On the other hand in the first Attaque two *Neitherlands* Ships the one named *Duivenvoord*, carrying 64. Guns, of which was Capt. the Young Heroe *Otto van Treslong*, & the other named the *Court of Zeeland*, carrying 58. Guns, of which was *Capt. Simon Block*, both fell on fire as is judged by burneing tamkins shot out of their owne or other *Neitherlands* Ships, by the force of the wind dryven back into the foresaid Ships. In the abovesaid Ship of *Cap. Otto van Treslong*, were the *Prince of Monaco*, & the *Earle of Guise*, beeing carried on by a couragious zeal, who both of them happily & in utmost perill were first saved in the Ship *Small Holland* upon which is Commander *Capt. Evert van Gelder*, Brother in the law to *Gen. de Ruyter*; & after came over into the Ship of the foresaid *Gen. de Ruyter*.

In the foresaid Attaque was the Ship of L. Adm. *Tromp* found to bee so damaged in his Masts, that by mischance another *Neitherlands* Ship comeing onboard him lost all his Masts; also the Ship of Reare Admirall *van Nes* about the same time had his Foremast shot by the board, so that both were necessitated as to their persons to goe over into other Ships, where they againe let fly their respective Flaggs, & as before with great valiantnes continued to doe their endeavour as formerly, & the foresaid mastles Ships presently according to orders given were sent up & towed out of the Fleet for *Holland*. The *English* as above having turned & passing by the *Neitherlands* Fleet, their Admirall & beside him some other Ships of his Fleet came to an Anker, but shortly after seeing that *Generall de Ruyter* with his Fleet under him had also turned & was comeing uppon him, they chopped their Cables & there fell betwixt them a very hard & heavy long-dureing fight; in which through Gods grace none of the *Neitherlands* Ships miscarryed. But betwixt seven & eight of the clock in the evening one more of the capitall *English* Ships of the Blew Esquadron, carrying by estimation betwixt 60. or 70. Guns, beeing past by the Ship of the *Generall de Ruyter* about a Musket shot, went to the ground; Both which *English* Ships sunk close by & even amongst the *Neitherlands* Fleet, so as the same was perfectly seene by very many Officers, Private Seamen & Souldiers, beeing donne before their eyes & remarqued by them; but it cannot certainly bee affirmed whether any other *English* Ships might be sunke or destroyd that day: But towards evening the Reare Adm. of the White beeing a capitall Ship of war & made very unserviceable by *Gen. de Ruyters* & others shot, there was commanded upon him one of the Fireships of the *Gen. de Ruyters* Esquadron, which being gotten onboard him & presently set on fire, the said Fireship was forth with sunke; whereuppon a second Fireship out of the *Zeelands* Esquadron did likewise come onboard the said R. Adm. and set him on fire but the said R. Adm. cleared himselfe & each time found meanes to put out the fire in his Ship. A third *Neitherlands* Fireship under the favour of the Guns of the L. Adm. *Cornelius Evertson* endeavouring to lay the said R. Adm. onboard was before hee

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was faſt, ſhott to ground and ſunk, ſo that according to the agreeing witneſs of all the *Neitherlands* Officers which were there abouts, the often mentioned Reare Admirall of the White, with a ſpeciall conſtancy, as an honorable Souldier hath quitted himſelfe: And it is the more to be admired becauſe that [according to the witnes of ſome *English* Priſoners who leaped out of his ship into the ſea, & were ſaved by the *Neitherlands* Ships at what time the foreſaid two firſt Fireships came onboard him] beeing on fire, three hundred of his Seamen, accounting the matter deſperate (and to decline the fire) leaped over board, and choſe the water. Out of the foreſaid Reare Admirall in the evening late an unhappy shott was made which tooke out of the world the valiant L. Adm. *Cornelius Evertſon*, whoſe good conduct and courage in many foregoeing occaſions, as alſo in this was experimented; and thereuppon for that time was the fight parted by the Night, ſoe that through the darknes in the ſmook and damp, it could not bee marked whether the foreſaid Reare Adm. might be ſunk or have cleared and ſaved himſelfe.

The Night beeing paſt the *English* Fleete on the 12 Iune 1666 with breake of Day was to windward above the *Neitherlands* Fleete about a league & halfe; the wind then beeing Weſt South Weſt, at which time both the Fleetes againe laid one towards the other, to wit, the *Neitherlands* Fleet Northweſt and the *English* South over: So ſoone as the two Fleetes, were approached nigh each other, the *Neitherlands* Fleete did alſo ly towards the South to ſtand the ſame courſe with the enemy. But the *English* ſetting aſide the advantage of the wind bore up uppon the *Neitherlands* Fleet and accordingly did run before the wind amongſt their enemies, the *Neitherlanders* keeping their courſe and bideing uppon a wind, running over againſt them, ſoe that both Fleets did in this manner paſſe with a heavy and sharp fight, without loſeing any one ſingle Ship of the *Neitherlanders*.

Nor can any of the *Neitherlands* Officers as yet give teſtimony to the *Deputies* and *Plenipotentiaries*, of the *States Generall*, that of a certeynty any of the *English* Ships were taken or deſtroid in the ſaid rencontre. The Fleets being paſt each other in this manner & on both

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ſides many Ships in their ſtanding & running rigging much damaged by shott, each with ſpliceing, wallknotting and otherwiſe againe ſought to make fitt, & there uppon it beeing faln quite ſtill, both Fleets lay and drove in a calme till about 11. of the clock before noone: When the gale increaſing both Fleets laid towards each other (the *Neitherlanders* then beeing to Windward) and againe fell into a very furious fight. The *Generall de Ruyter* being advanced about halfe way in the *English* Fleete, heard in the midſt of the ſame very furious shooteing, and from thence preſumeing that ſome Ships of the Fleete under him muſt bee in a ſtreight & totally ſurrounded by the enemy reſolved with his Eſquadron under him to fall in; And hee preſently bearing up ran in amongſt the enemy, who uppon his comeing makeing ſome roome, hee ſaw and found that the *L. Admirall Tromp*, then in perſon beeing in and letting fly his flagg uppon the Ship of *Jacob Cornelius Swart*, had with a ſouldiers heart broken in there, and together with *Vice-Admirall van der Hulſt*, *Captain Peter Salomonſon*, *De Haen*, and *van Amſtell*, lay very much diſenabled ſurrounded by the enemy: All which without the aforeſayd ſuccor were in great danger to bee burned or ſunk, as indeed the forementioned Ship of *Peter Salomonſon* was at the comeing of the foreſaid ſuccour already on fyre and thereby then loſt. The aforeſayd Captayn and a good part of his ſeamen were in utmoſt perill and juſt in their Extremity ſaved by the *Neitherlanders*; But it pleaſed God that hee (beeing gone over upon the Ship of Captayn *Schey*, and there according to his power doeing worthily,) dyed during the battell in the bed of honour.

The aforeſaid Ship of *Capt. Swart*, & of the aforenamed three other Captains, were, dureing the time of the ſaid ſurrounding made ſo unſerviceable, that the *L. Admiral Tromp* was neceſſitated again to goe over upon another Ship; And the aforenamed Ships of Vice-Admirall *van der Hulſt*, & the foreſaid *Capt. de Haen*, *Swart* & *van Amſtel*, as being wholly unuſefull, muſt bee ſent up to the firſt & fittingeſt heavens. In the aforeſaid throng amongſt others Vice-Admirall *van der Hulſt* was alſo shot dead, who in all occaſions had carryed

carryed & deported himselfe as a brave Souldier & understanding Officer. Yet it pleased God the Lord in a short time doubly to repayr the foresaid loss & dammage of the Ships of the States of the *United Neitherlands;* for many of the *English* Fleet were the same day sunk & burned. Amongst which there is remayning the perfect knowledge & notice of these following Ships: Namely,

First, One of the Esquadron of the *Red*, beeing according to ghesse a Ship of about 60 Guns, sunk about noon amongst the foremost Ships or in the van of the *English* Fleet.

Secondly, One of the Blew Esquadron, carrying by ghesse between 50 & 60 Guns, sunk about three of the clock in the afternoon, after hee had passed by *General de Ruyter*, & in passing by him was duely saluted.

Thirdly, One of the *White* Esquadron, carrying according to ghesse near 50 Guns, a little time after was sunk by the syde of Vice-Admirall *de Liefde*, who had so boared him through with his Canon that he went to the ground.

Fourthly, One of the Esquadron of the *White Flag*, carrying about 50 Guns by computation, about halfe an hour after was sunk in the Esquadron of *General de Ruyter*, a little behind the Ship of *Capt. van Meewen*, who gave him a full lower tyre in passing by. And that it may certainly bee concluded that both the foresaid Ships of the *White* Esquadron, are two distinct Ships it is to be noted that many Officers & seamen saw the one as wel as the other ruined: to wit, the same persons that had seen the one sunk saw the other sunk also a short time after: whereof examination is carefully made to be sure that one & the same Ship should not bee taken for two distinct Ships.

Fifthly, The Ship the *Black Eagle*, or *Armes of Groening*, beeing the last Autumne (after that the *Neitherlands* Fleet by an heavy storm were dissipated from each other,) met by the *English* & taken; which foresaid Ship the *Black Eagle* was sunk, *Capt. Marrevelt* having with fore-consideration prepared & fyred his whole broadside upon it.

Sixtly, Another *English* Ship sunk in the middest of the *English* Fleet, after he had sayled for some time with a Flag of distresse without any mans comeing to his help.

In the aforeſaid two dayes as alſo in the fight of the fourth day (of with hereafter ſhall bee further ſpoken) there were undoubtedly ſeverall English Ships burned of which nevertheleſſe no full certeynty of teſtimony can be given, in regard that ſome fyre Ships were ſet on fyre & yet it cannot bee perfectly ſaid whether the Ships which they were aboard of were burned or that they cleered themſelves. Except onely two *English* Ships, which many bee certainly affirmed dureing the fight to bee burned, one uppon the ſecond the other uppon the fourth day of the foreſaid Battel, for as much as the *Neitherlands* Officers and Seamen that ſerved uppon the Fireships, come in with good certificates to obtaine their ſetled reward for that ſervice.

When the *English Priſoners* fisht out of the Sea, and ſent to the reſpective Colledges of Admiraltyes, ſhall bee perfectly examined to underſtand out of what Ships they are particulary ſaved, undoubtedly yet more of the burned and ſunk *English* Ships will bee diſcovered.

The Fight of the foreſaid 12. of Iune, was very fierce eſpecially in the afternoon, ſo that many Ships on both ſides were very much damnifyed in their Maſts, ropmaſts, ſayles & rigging: Amongſt others about 3 or 4 of the clock in the afternoon was the main Topmaſt of *Gen. de Ruyters* Ship ſhott downe falling with Flagg & pendant from above. Hee there uppon being ſomething unfitted gave order preſently to L. Admirall *van Nes* in meane while till that another Topmaſt ſhould bee ſet againe to lett fly the pendent under his Flagg, & for that time to acte as *Generall*, orderly to proſecute the fight. The which alſo was followed by him with ſuch courage & conduct that both Fleets came up three times one towards the other that afternoon & ſo having paſſed each other towards the evening when the *Neitherlands* fleet had turned the fourth time toward the *English* they followed their courſe & with all their ſayles made towards their owne coaſt; they body beeing leſſened to eight or nine & thirty men of warre; the *Neitherlands* Fleet ſtanding towards them (who were by their tacking got a good way aſterne,) did uſe all poſſible endeavour to fetch them up, to that end makeing all the ſayle they could. But the night & calme comeing up, were, next to Gods will, the cauſe that the *Neitherlands* Fleet could

could not reach them. The *Gen. de Ruyter* with his other ſailes ſo much as he could keepeing neer the Fleet got in the mean while his maine Topmaſt, Flagg & pendant againe ſet up & all brought into fitting poſture, & did againe on the 13 his office as *Generall*. The *English* with breake of day diſcerneing that the *Neitherlands* Ships continued all poſſible endeavour to fetch them up, ſett their maſtles and ill ſayling Ships in fire, that they should not fall into the hand of their enemy, and uſed all meanes to fetch the *River* of *London*, ſetting to this end Topgallantſayles, Spritſayles, Lyſayles, & Drabblers, yea alſo wetting their Sailes & ſetting all to worke that could any wayes further or help them, the wind then Eaſt & afterwards Eaſt South Eaſt, with a ſmall gale. How many was the number of the Ships that for the cauſe above ſaid in the morneing were ſett on fire, could out of the *Neitherlands* Fleet with no perfect certainty bee marked, the number beeing by one made greater than by another, but the *English* in their *Gazette* of $\frac{4}{14}$ to $\frac{7}{17}$ June 1666 printed at *London* by publique authority [wherein they adſcribe to themſelves the Victory,] ſay that 3 Ships dureing the retreat, by order from their *Generall* were ſet on fire, to wit, the Ship *Saint Paul*, & two other ſlugg Ships, of which the names are not there printed. The foreſaid retreat continueing the whole day the *English* approached ſo neer the ſands lying before the foreſaid *River*, that their *Admirall* of the *White*, named *Sir George Aſcue*, with the Ship *Prince Royall* under him, mounted with ninety Braſſe Guns beeing the biggeſt & capitalſt Ship of their whole Fleet, came a ground uppon a certaine ſand named the *Galper* a grievous miſchance for a Souldier, who dureing the whole Battel had quitted himſelfe manfully, & now not otherwiſe but according to order of his *Generall* was retireing; & although the foreſaid *Admirall* in this manner being come a ground, made ſignes with ſhooting & otherwiſe for helpe & aſſiſtance yet nevertheleſſe all the Ships of the *English* Fleet & namely the reſt of his owne *Eſquadron* held their courſe: ſo that he beeing now alone bereft of force to reſiſt & forſaken by all ſuccour should have been burned by two *Neitherlands* Ships, which came preſently up to him, had not L. Admiral *Tromp*, being then

uppon the Ship of Reare Admirall *Sweers* given ſignes to the aforeſaid Fireships to forbear, becauſe that uppon the Ship of *Admirall Aſcue* the Flagg was ſtrucken, & ſo thereby as by other ſignes it was: hewd that quarter was deſired; vvhere uppon the Seamen of the aforeſaid Reare Admirall *Sweers* by order of I. Admirall *Tromp* vvent orboard the forenamed *Aſcue*, & brought him over vvith ſome of his Officers & people as Priſoners uppon the foreſaid R. Admirall *Sweers*, & the next day in the morneing by order of *Generall de Ruyter* ſent the foreſaid *Admirall Aſcue* vvith a Galliot to the *Hague*, & although the aforeſaid Ship the *Prince Royal* afterwards gott afloat againe, yet neverthelesſe becauſe it vvould much incumber the Fleet *Generall de Ruyter* ordered that the Ship should be burned, & the People ſaved, which preſently vvas accordingly effected.

About the ſame time towards the evening there came out of the Southweſt twenty two *Engliſh* Ships of warre, commanded, as was afterwards underſtood, by *Prince Rupert*, who as is now certified the day before vvas ſent off into the Channell & there & in the Haven of *Portſmouth* & *Plimmouth* vvas to gather ſome more Ships to him & ſo together to run & meet the *French Fleet* under the Command of the *Duke of Beaufort*, & attacque them. Likevviſe there came, out of the *River of London* as is judged, certainly from the *Engliſh Coaſt*, three other great Ships of vvarre, makeing together a nevv re-inforce of 25 good men of vvarre. The *Netherlands* Fleet ſeeing the foreſaid nevv ſuccours to approach, the *Zeeland* & *Vrieſland* Eſquadron made tovvards them, but the aforeſaid body under *Prince Rupert* declined them, & ran tovvards the *Engliſh* Fleet or the remainder of them, vvherevvith he conjoyned late in the evening. The vvhole *Engliſh* Fleet beeing then in all with the foreſaid new Re-inforce ſixty or ſixty one good ships of vvarre ſtrong, vvhereof ſo notable a part vvere vvholly freſh ſhips. The *Netherlanders* on the other hand vvere then together about ſixty four ſhips of vvarre, but all by a fight of tvvo dayes & chaſe of the enemy the third day, much damaged & tyred out, beeing but the remainder of their Fleet; three haveing been ſunk or burned as is above related, others vvith their taken

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priſes gon for *Holland*, others either maſters or towing maſtes ſhips ſent out of the Fleet. The matter now ſtanding in theſe terms the *Neitherlanders*, which now ſaw a conſiderable Battel to bee expected having this night (to decline the ſands & have more room) with a ſmall ſaile ſtretched Eaſtwards on: The *Generall de Ruyter* in the morneing early firſt called a *Councill of Warre* & afterwards alſo made a ſign to all his Captains to come aboard, & having exhorted them all to doe their endeavour as alſo given them orders according to which they were to regulate themſelves, the Battel was again begun the 14 of June forewritten in the morneing about 8 of the clock, betwixt the *Foreland* & the *Flemmſh Banks* in the open ſea about 8 leagues from the Land, the Wind beeing South ſouth-eaſt, whereby the *Neitherlands* Fleet haveing the weather gage did with their three Eſquadrons in three diſtinct places break into the enemy & fought through them, wherewith the *Engliſh* were ſomewhat diſperſed. This beeing donne *Generall de Ruyter* tacked againe with the *Neitherlands* Fleet & ſtood over Southwards towards the enemy, who on the other hand rallyed themſelves. This was re-iterated three ſeverall times diſtinctly, whereby it was fought neer this whole day very fiercely on both ſides with uncerteynty of the iſſue. Dureing this furious fight one of the *Neitherlands* Ships of warre commanded by Capt. *Vytenhout* was fyred & after ſunk. One of the *Engliſh* Fireships ſeeing the Vice Admirall *de Liefde* diſabled & lying with his main-yard downe, attempted to lay him on board; but was by the *Vice-Admirall* & by Capt. *William Bowdewijns* turned off. Thereafter another *Neitherlands* Fireſhip that by a ſhott was fired fell aboard that Fireſhip & they burned both together. On the other ſide a *Neitherlands* Fireſhip attempting to board and fire the Ship of *Prince Rupert*, the which in this ſhort time was much battered, one of the *Engliſh* Fireſhips which attended on the foreſaid *Prince* came aboard the *Neitherlands* fireſhip & thereby both the foreſaid fireſhips as alſo another *Engliſh* Ship which unhappily fell in with them were burned. In the meane while was the L. Admirall *Tromp* with the a forenamed Ship of Rear Admirall *Sweers* & ſome other Ships with him in a long continued

nued & furious fight with the enemy wholly disenabled so that hee was forced with his foresaid Ships to abide out of the fight that they might as much as was possible fit & bring themselves in posture agayn. *Gen. de Ruyter* [although by this means the Fleet under him was diminished in a considerable number of capital Ships] nevertheless seeing that the sun began to grow low, resolved [without tying himselfe too much to the advantage of the wind] to make the appoynted sign generally & together with all the Esquadron to break in uppon the enemy. Where uppon the L. Adm^s *van Meppelen, de Vries*, together with Vice Adm^s *Banckert, Schram* & *Coenders*, as also the R. Adm. *Brunysvelt* & all the Captaines which were to windward resolutely breaking in & every one doeing his endeavour, it fell out that the L. Adm. van *Nes* & the Vice Admirall *De Liefde* with the R. Admirals van *Nes* & *Evertson* & some others Ship beeing to lee-ward of the *English* Fleet & the *Generall de Ruyter* with the rest of the *Neytherlands* Ships to Windward; they so streightned the middle of the *English* Fleete betwixt them both the sayd Fleet beeing by this means attacqued both before & behind, that the enemy after a sharp fight of an hour & half, not willing as it seems to bee boarded by the *Neitherlanders* Ships, betook themselves the second time againe to flight & thereby fell wholly into confusion & rent in pieces. The *White Flagg* with eight or tenne *English* men of warre bore away before the wind northwards with lee sayles set, & the *Admiralls* of the *Red* & *Blew Esquadrons* by the wind ran over towards the *English* coast hoysing up all the sayles that they could. The *Neitherlands* Ships which uppon the afore said signall of the *Gen. de Ruyter* could lay a board any *English* Ship, mastered it: Amongst others the R. Adm. *Brunsvelt* boarding two of the enemies Friggats that lay fast together hee alone overcame both the foresaid enemies Ships; But in this confusion as appears took no sufficient order for the keeping possession of the two a foresayd prizes, whereby the *English* afterwards made themselves masters of them againe: but some time after Capt. *Pawes* observeing it, retook both the fore said rescued Ships; but the one named the *Bull* which could not longer keep the Sea nor bee brought in to any haven was soon sunk, the other named the *Essex*,

a faire Fregat with 58 guns not very much damaged is brought up into the *Texell*. The like accident of beeing retaken is hapned to another *English* prize. The Vice Admirall *Coenders* did at the same time overcome & bring up accordingly into the *Texell* the Ship called the *Clovetree* mounted with 62 guns; which the last yeare was taken by the *English* from the State of the United *Neitherlands*. Likewise also Capt. *Ruth Maximilliaen* at the same time did master & hath brought up into *Goree* the Ship named the *Convertine* mounted with 54 guns. Besides these uppon the forewritten day according to the knowledge of the *Neitherlands* Officers there were two *English* Ships sunke, to witt, one of the Esquadron of the *White* which sunk in the evening, & the other a little time thereafter, it beeing not without likelyhood that more other *English* Ships are destroyd of which the *Neitherlands* Officiers have not full knowledge and therefore of that particular nothing can bee certainly affirmed by them.

The *English* finding themselves in this desolate posture & followed by the *Neitherlanders*, *God the Lord*; [which by his almighty hand had brought the worke thus farre] as appears did not please that they should for that time bee brought into farther ruine, or fall in to the hands of the *Neitherlanders*. His *Divine Majesty* this evening about seven of the Clock very suddenly caused a thick mist to come up, dureing the which the *Neitherlands* Fleet, having chased the enemy 4 glasses was at last forced to forbear the further prosecution, least chaseing the enemy upon uncerteynty & as it were by groping they should scatter & dissipate themselves, which acording to rules of Sea affayres should have been most unadvisedly don; yea not to bee answered. Wherefore the *Gen. de Ruyter* by the ordinary sign-shotts gatherd the Fleet together, which lay driving with a small sayle the whole night, but the next day morneing beeing the 15 of June aforesaid noe *English* Ship could bee descryed no not from the topmasts of the *Neitherlands* Ships. The battel & prosecution of it, there-with had an end: The *Generall de Ruyter* the same day with the *Neitherlands* Fleet beeing strong sixty Ships of warre arrived in the *Wielings* according to order, that beeing the rendezvous appoynted by the State.

Nine-

Nine others, beside the forementioned Ship of *Coll. Gent*, being, part dureing the fight & part after the end of the Battel, either unserviceable or come into *Goree*, to bring up their Prizes; Ten others for like reason successively sent towards the *Texell* as belonging thereto; And the remaining four were as is here above related burned or sunk, making together 845 which with one light Fregat of the *Maes* used for an advise-boate, amounts to the number of 85 Ships of warre: which number the *Neitherlands* Fleet did consist of, besydes Fireships, Advise-boates, & other Vessels when they set sayle from before the *Texell*. And wee understand that the remainder of the *English* Fleet having endeavoured with all diligence to fetch severall of the next Havens they could, did the most part of them get in at *Harwich*.

For which Victory the inhabitants of the *Confœderate Neitherlands* are bound to give the highest thankes unto God the Lord, who hath given them so eminent a Victory. For according to the stedfast & constant witnes of the Officers that have been in the Fleet, & also according to what appeares by bringing up of Prises before our eyes, three & twenty Ships of warre of the enemyes are ruined or taken & brought up, & amongst them especially one *Admirall* & one *Vice-Admirall*, besides those which without the knowledge of the foresaid *Neitherlands Officers* may be burned, sunk, or come to other mischances: And on the contrary in a fight of four dayes no more then 4 *Neitherlands* Men of warre all of particular although valiant Captaines are lost; & not any thing thereof is faln into the enemies hands for their rejoyceing.

Thus Collected by the means & in manner afore said
this 26 of Iune 1666. Was Signed *T. Gerlacius.*

And under stood

By order of the Deputyes & Plenipotentiaryes aforesaid.

28 MR 59 *subscribed,* G. Borth.

FINIS.